

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Noboru SHIBATA et al.
Serial No: Not assigned (parent 10/379,471)
Filed: January 21, 2004
For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE
AND STORAGE METHOD THEREOF

Art Unit: Not assigned
Examiner: Not assigned

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sirs:

1. ☒ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
2. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in

§1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

OR FEE

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.
3. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

AND FEE

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).
4. ☒ If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**

5. ☒ A list of 14 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the listed reference(s) are not provided since they were submitted in parent application Serial No. 10/253,455, the benefit of the filing date of which is claimed herein under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

- ☐ Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- ☐ The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- ☐ Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

By: 

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Date: January 21, 2004

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FORM PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION***(Use several sheets if necessary)***Docket Number (Optional)**
81790.0308**Application Number**
Not assigned**Applicant**
SHIBATA et al.**Filing Date**
January 21, 2004**Group Art Unit**
Not assigned**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,122,193	9/2000	SHIBATA et al.			
	6,178,115	1/2001	SHIBATA et al.			
	5,892,710	4/1999	FAZIO et al.			
	6,055,188	4/2000	TAKEUCHI et al.			
	6,058,042	5/2000	NOBUKATA			
	5,892,710	4/1999	FAZIO et al.			
	5,949,708	9/1999	CHEVALLIER			
	6,034,892	3/2000	CHOI			
	6,040,992	3/2000	CHEVALLIER			
	6,141,243	10/2000	ASLAM et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	0-797212	9/24/97	EP				
	97-48098	12/18/97	WO				
	0-908894	4/14/99	EP				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Ken Takeuchi et al. "A multi-page cell architecture for high-speed programming multi-level NAND flash memories", No. XP002132533; 1997 Symposium on VLSI Circuit Digest of Technical Papers; pg. 67-68

EXAMINER**DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.